

Application No.: 10/646,306
Docket No.: UC0206USNA

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REMARKS

The following remarks are responsive to the Examiner's Final Rejection in the Office Action dated November 5, 2007.

Status of the claims

The pending claims are 8-20. Claims 1-7 and 21-36 were previously canceled in the Request for Continued Examination filed February 22, 2007. Claims 8-20 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,329,758 to Salam.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b): Claims 8-20

Claims 8-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,329,758 to Salam. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

The Office Action maintains the anticipation rejection over Salam, and cites col. 11, lines 60-67 to support the rejection of the presently claimed subject matter. The cited passage of Salam teaches an alternative embodiment where the sensor 64 can be replaced with a fiber optic guide to transmit light to a sensor common to all the tiles. No teaching or suggestion is present to locate the sensor outside the projected area of the lamps. In fact, Salam presents only scenarios in which the sensor is located within a projection area of radiation emitting elements, element 21 of Fig. 1, use of a photocell in place of the camera, see col. 5, lines 26-30, a 16 x 16 tile is illustrated in Fig. 5 with a phototransistor (64) located in the center of the tile and surrounded by lamps, col. 11, lines 46-49. Hence, the photosensors of Salam are located within the projected area of the lamps, as illustrated in Figs. 1 and 5, and fall outside the bounds of the presently claimed invention. No anticipation is present if one or more claim elements is absent from the cited reference, and in this case, Salam fails to present sensors within the projected area of radiation emitting elements.

Applicants respectfully submit, therefore, that Salam is not available as a § 102 reference against the amended claims under review, and respectfully request that this rejection be withdrawn. Salam cannot be reasonably interpreted as anticipating at least amended claims 8 and 16, as camera or photosensors are located within the projected area outlined by the radiation-emitting elements. By extension, dependent claims 9-15 and 17-20 are likewise allowable as containing all the requirements of the allowable base claims 8 and 16, respectively.


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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing remarks, Applicants submit that the above referenced application is in condition for allowance. A Notice of Allowance for the pending claims is earnestly requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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